



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein, said nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an isolated nucleic acid molecule of SEQ. ID NO: 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~ which encodes an IL-17 receptor-related protein; and

(b) ~~an isolated nucleic acid molecule which is complimentary and hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecules of (a); and~~

[[c)] isolated nucleic acid molecule differing from the isolated nucleic acid molecules of (a) ~~or (b)~~ in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and which encodes an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

2. (currently amended) A fragment of nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said fragment contains from about that is at least 10 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO. 1 up to the full length sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1 bases in length and which will selectively hybridize to nucleic acid molecule encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

3. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is used as an anti-sense molecule to inhibit the expression of an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

4. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is used for chromosomal mapping or mutation analysis of gene encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

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A* 5. (currently amended) [[A]] An isolated genomic DNA encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein, wherein said genomic DNA comprises coding sequences identical ~~hybridizes~~ to nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

6. (original) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID NO: 1, 2, 3 and 4 adapted for expression in a cell and has regulatory elements necessary for expression of said nucleic acid molecule in the cell.

7. (currently amended) A recombinant host cell comprising ~~transfected~~ with the vector of claim 6, wherein said vector expresses an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

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wt 8. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 7, wherein said cell is selected from group consisting of bacterial cells, mammalian cells, plant cells and insect cells.

9-21. (withdrawn)
